

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Edward R. Lawson on 5/7/2010.

**The application has been amended as follows:**

**2. The claims have been amended as follows and a complete list is being provided below:**

**3. List of claims**

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for the detachable connection of a wiper blade (12) on a swivelable wiper arm (10) of a wiper for windows of motor vehicles, the apparatus comprising a bushing (18) one of connectable that can be connected to the wiper blade [[or]] and arranged on the wiper blade for accommodating a plug-in axis (16) of the wiper arm to define a pivot axis of the wiper arm and the wiper blade, and the apparatus comprising a device to lock the plug-in axis in the bushing at least in an operating position of the wiper blade, in which the directions of the longitudinal extension of the wiper blade and the wiper arm are aligned approximately parallel to one another, wherein the plug-in axis (16) extends transverse to the longitudinal extension of the wiper arm, wherein the device for locking includes a catch hook (20) arranged on the wiper blade (12), which in the operating position partially grips around the wiper arm (10) near the plug-in axis (16) and forms an angular limit stop for the wiper blade (12), the catch hook (20) being longitudinally spaced from the bushing on

Art Unit: 3727

the wiper blade, the catch hook (20) having a first wall extending parallel to the pivot axis, the first wall being engageable with a portion of the wiper arm to provide the angular limit stop, the catch hook (20) having a second wall extending transverse to the pivot axis and to the first wall, wherein, in the operating position, the second wall is engageable with a portion of the wiper arm to limit axial movement of the wiper arm away from the wiper blade, the catch hook (20) having a third wall extending transverse to the pivot axis and to the first wall, the second wall and the third wall being on opposite ends of the first wall, wherein the wiper blade includes a connector (14), the connector (14) supporting the bushing (18) and the catch hook (20).

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein in the operating position of the wiper blade (12), the catch hook (20) blocks an axial movement of the plug-in axis (16) in the bushing (18) to a large extent.

23-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the plug-in axis (16) can only be displaced in the bushing (18) in the axial direction in a pre-defined angular range that differs from the operating position.

27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the wiper blade (12) can be separated from the wiper arm (10) in an angular position outside the operating position.

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein the plug-in axis (16) can only be displaced in the bushing (18) in the axial direction in a pre-defined angular range that differs from the operating position.

29-31. (Cancelled)

Art Unit: 3727

32. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein the wiper blade (12) can be separated from the wiper arm (10) in an angular position outside the operating position.

33-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein the wiper blade (12) can be separated from the wiper arm (10) in an angular position outside the operating position.

37-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the wiper blade (12) can be separated from the wiper arm (10) in an angular position outside the operating position.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the wiper arm has a first face and an opposite second face, wherein the plug-in axis projects from the first face, and wherein, in the operating position, the second wall of the catch hook (20) is engageable with a portion of the second face of the wiper arm to limit axial movement of the wiper arm away from the wiper.

42. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the wiper arm has a side wall extending between the first face and the second face, and wherein the first wall of the catch hook (20) is engageable with a portion of the side wall of the wiper arm to provide the angular limit stop.

Art Unit: 3727

43. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the wiper arm has a first face, an opposite second face and a side wall extending between the first face and the second face, wherein the plug-in axis projects from the first face, and wherein the first wall of the catch hook (20) is engageable with a portion of the side wall of the wiper arm to provide the angular limit stop.

Art Unit: 3727

44. (New) An apparatus for the detachable connection of a wiper blade (12) on a swivelable wiper arm (10) of a wiper for windows of motor vehicles, the apparatus comprising a bushing (18) one of connectable to the wiper blade [[or]] and arranged on the wiper blade for accommodating a plug-in axis (16) of the wiper arm to define a pivot axis of the wiper arm and the wiper blade, and the apparatus comprising a device to lock the plug-in axis in the bushing at least in an operating position of the wiper blade, in which the directions of the longitudinal extension of the wiper blade and the wiper arm are aligned approximately parallel to one another, wherein the plug-in axis (16) extends transverse to the longitudinal extension of the wiper arm, wherein the device for locking includes a catch hook (20) arranged on the wiper blade (12), which in the operating position partially grips around the wiper arm (10) near the plug-in axis (16) and forms an angular limit stop for the wiper blade (12), the catch hook (20) being longitudinally spaced from the bushing on the wiper blade, the catch hook (20) having a U-shape including a base portion extending parallel to the pivot axis and providing the angular limit stop, the catch hook (20) having a leg extending transverse to the pivot axis and to the base, wherein, in the operating position, the leg is engageable with a portion of the wiper arm to limit axial movement of the wiper arm away from the wiper blade, wherein the wiper blade includes a connector (14), the connector (14) supporting the bushing (18) and the catch hook (20).

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- a. The instant invention is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art because a catch hook having first, second and third sides which capture the arm; furthermore the shape is a U shaped which encompasses arcuate connections between the three sides as opposed to a more rectangular shape shown by the first modification with the three side. The claims are similar

modification of same inventive quality in combination with the other claimed limitations..

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LEE D. WILSON whose telephone number is 571-272-4499. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MONICA CARTER can be reached on 571-272-4475. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/538,940  
Art Unit: 3727

Page 8

Ldw

/LEE D WILSON/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3727

May 7, 2010